



Phoenix

New York Asian Women's Center

Admin: 212.732.0054 Hotline: 1.888.888.7702 Website: www.nyawc.org

Summer 2010

NYAWC OPENS FIRST CENTER IN NYC FOR ASIAN WOMEN CRIME VICTIMS



From left to right: The Honorable Doris Ling-Cohan, NY State Senator Toby Ann Stavisky, NY State Assembly Member Grace Meng, NYAWC Executive Director Larry Lee, Former NY State Assembly Member Ellen Young, Press Officer for the Office of NYC Comptroller Wei-Kuo Ma

On Monday, August 2, NYAWC opened the Center for Asian Women Crime Victims (CAWCV) in Elmhurst, Queens. The walk-in facility—NYAWC's first public space of its own—will make it easier for abused women to get the help they need and deserve.

The CAWCV provides comprehensive domestic violence and human trafficking services, assessments and referrals, as well as assistance with crime victims' compensation claims, immigration and other legal issues. It also helps women find emergency shelter, housing and ESOL instruction.

Julie Kim Richards, who oversees the office staff as NYAWC's Director of Client Services, said Elmhurst is a convenient location for many clients who live in Queens. As the area is home to a large Asian population made up of diverse ethnicities, the CAWCV will offer services in various Asian languages and dialects.

"It's a place where women can come in and know we speak their language and understand their culture," said Julie.

DIGITAL ART THERAPY PROGRAM CONCLUDES SECOND SUCCESSFUL YEAR

The Digital Art Therapy (DAT)/Mentoring Program held its second annual graduation on June 19, celebrating another successful year of growth for this new initiative.

DAT, also known as Drawing & Truth to its students, is an arts-based mentor program that equips the teenage children of NYAWC clients with valuable skills and self-confidence through art therapy and community-building workshops. In the last year, DAT has expanded to also include student mentorship.

Celine Liu, the Children's Program Manager and founder of DAT, worked alongside volunteer instructors like Jessica Song and a team of dedicated mentors to plan inspiring weekly workshops. Themes included problem solving through design to college prep and Career Day. Overall, Jessica says, "we enjoy teaching teens the basics of design programs like PowerPoint and Photoshop while giving them positive role models to form friendships."

During the graduation lunch, students showed off their final projects made with their new design skills and instructors shared their students' accomplishments before certificates were presented in a ceremony.

Special thanks to Ankur Gandhi and Serengeti Asset Management for hosting our graduation in their beautiful Soho space.

NYPD RECOGNIZES NYAWC AT WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH BREAKFAST

On Monday, March 29, 2010, NYAWC was honored at the Women's History Month Breakfast hosted by the New Immigrant Outreach Unit of the NYPD Community Affairs Bureau. Honorees were awarded a certificate acknowledging their work with the immigrant community. Haemy Lee, Project Free Manager, and Fronthy Nguyen, Outreach Coordinator, accepted the award on behalf of NYAWC. Other honorees were The Arab-American Family Support Center, Turning Point for Women and Families, and Salam A. Lutheran Church.

The event was introduced by Sergeant Lizbeth Villafane, followed by words from Police Officer Mona Mazhar and opening remarks by Deputy Chief Kathy Ryan. The keynote speaker was Commissioner Fatima Shama from the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs. In addition to recognizing the honorees, the breakfast provided an opportunity for community-based organizations to network.



Fatima Shama, Sergeant Lizbeth Villafane, Haemy Lee, Fronthy Nguyen, Mona Mazhar, and Deputy Chief Kathy Ryan at the breakfast

SHOWER FOR THE SHELTER



In June 2010, the Verizon Foundation showered NYAWC with generosity during its annual "Shower for the Shelter" collection drive, in which the National Network to End Domestic Violence matched up Verizon offices around the country with local domestic violence shelters. This past June, Verizon donated 7 boxes of personal hygiene and household cleaning products to NYAWC clients.

A special thanks goes out to Roda Simmons and Randolph Jacques, the Verizon employees who coordinated the "Shower for the Shelter" program at their respective sites. We would also like to thank their team of Verizon volunteers: Lorraine Nieto, Barry Neustein, Annette Gray, Deborah Chung, Jeanell McFarlane, Tamika Green, Leonna Sylvester, Deidra Keys, Michelle Macklin-brye, Patricia Somerville, and Jessica Pruzinsky. Finally, NYAWC would like to thank all of the Verizon employees and their friends and family who were kind enough to donate.

The NYAWC clients who benefited from their contributions "were so excited," said Diana Turner, a Residential Manager at one of NYAWC's shelters. "They didn't have to worry about buying deodorant or soap for the next 4 months!"

BARBEQUE AT PEACE HOUSE

We would like to send a warm thank you to board member Narges Kakalia and her law firm for choosing Peace House for their annual volunteer project. On July 15, the New York office of Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo P.C. hosted a barbeque at Peace House for its residents and staff. The day was filled with wonderful food and activities. The residents enjoyed chalk drawing, playing hopscotch, creating door decorations, and watching a magic show. "It was truly an amazing day of fun and relief for all of the residents," remarked Diana Turner, the Peace House Residential Manager. The event was topped off with a generous donation from the law firm to NYAWC.

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SHELTER CLIENTS CELEBRATE MOTHER'S DAY

In celebration of Mother's Day in May, volunteer Ellen Chin led necklace and bracelet beading activities for all the women at NYAWC's two emergency residences. Under the creative guidance of Ellen and other volunteers, clients made many beautiful bracelets and necklaces for themselves and their children. The clients were very happy to show off their artwork to each other while they chatted. Volunteers watched over the children so that their mothers had an opportunity to relax and enjoy the celebration. Volunteers also brought a cake for the mothers and kids to share. Women who participated in the celebration received scarves as gifts from NYAWC Board Member Shelly Wang and Tai Wang of WAC Lighting. Overall, both the moms and their children wore big smiles, pleased at the beauty of their creations.



KNITTING PROJECT HELPS WOMEN HEAL

For the last five months, NYAWC has held knitting projects for the women staying at its shelters. Every Friday night, at two shelters—Rose House and Peace House—women come together for a late-night knitting session. The women enjoy the activity so much that very often the knitting session, planned to meet for one hour, lasts for up to three hours. The knitting sessions provide opportunities for the battered women to de-stress and socialize with their housemates. Sometimes they bring their kids. At other times, they bring food to share with each other. NYAWC staff members Hifsa Rajput and Uzma Naz organize the knitting sessions, as well as provide assistance. Yarn and knitting supplies are generously donated by Knitty City.

SAVE THE DATE!

28TH ANNIVERSARY BENEFIT & PHOENIX AWARDS, HONORING:



LUCY FRIEDMAN
FOUNDER, THE AFTER-SCHOOL CORPORATION

KAREN HAGBERG
PARTNER, MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP

SILENT AUCTION, HORS D'OEUVRES & COCKTAILS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2010
RUBIN MUSEUM OF ART
150 WEST 17TH STREET
6:30 - 9PM
TICKETS: \$175

NYAWC

Tickets can be purchased on-line at www.nycharities.org, key word: New York Asian Women's Center
For sponsorship and donation opportunities, contact vicki@vsplanningllc.com or 646-502-5337.
www.nyawc.org

REDLOTUS RAISES AWARENESS AND FUNDS FOR CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

NYAWC gives its heartfelt thanks to RedLotus, Asian-Pacific Professional Network of Ogilvy and Mather, an international advertising, marketing and public relations agency. In celebration of Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month, RedLotus teamed up with NYAWC to raise awareness among Ogilvy and Mather employees about domestic violence and human trafficking in the Asian American community. In addition, RedLotus hosted a happy hour and raffle and encouraged co-workers to donate. The network raised over \$3,500, which will help NYAWC's Children's Program provide counseling, advocacy assistance, mentoring programs, and support groups to child survivors of family violence.

HOTLINE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you speak Mandarin, Cantonese or any other Asian languages? NYAWC is looking for volunteers to answer hotline calls for 3 hours or more between 9 AM and 7 PM on weekdays at its Manhattan office. Hotline volunteers will receive training and will be under the guidance of the hotline manager.

To volunteer, please contact Xue Yi Zhen, Volunteer Coordinator, at 212-732-0054, ext. 127, or xzhen@nyawc.org.



NYAWC
New York Asian Women's Center

invites you to...

The Queens Community Benefit Dinner

to commemorate the opening of our **Center for Asian Women Crime Victims** in Elmhurst, NY. Our new hub for services reaches out to our extensive Queens community, who make up 1/3 of our clients. There will be exciting cultural entertainment, delicious food, and an opportunity to socialize with community leaders and friends.

Thursday, 9/16/10
6-6:45pm, Reception
7pm, Dinner

LaGuardia Sheraton
135-20 39th Ave.
Flushing, NY 11354

Benefit Committee: Shelley Wang • Veronica Tsang • Larry Lee • Jessica Song
Aina Canda • Louise Cheung • Zal Dabhoiwala • Sarah Jiang • Keen Lee
Anita Li • Anita Shih • Minh Tieu • Anukriti Vatsa • Kevin Wong • Julia Yang

To purchase tickets, please go to:
<http://www.nyawc.org/events/upcoming.html>

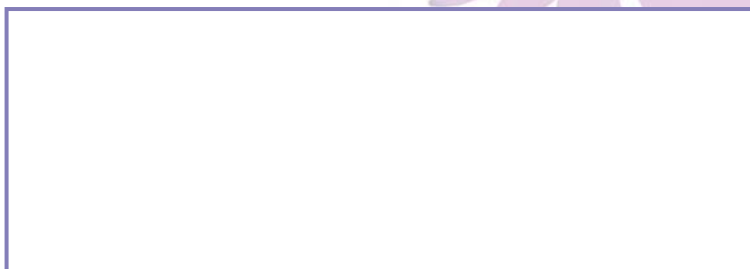
Special Thanks to our Sponsors: WAC Lighting: wacighting.com, w2lighting.com
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BE LISTED ON THE BENEFIT COMMITTEE!

Pledge to bring two of your friends, and your name will be listed on our Benefit Committee. This list will be on all invitations and printed programs for our event.

To be added, please contact queensbenefit@nyawc.org, and let us thank you for the support you continuously bring to our cause and community.

Return Service Requested



What is the significance of the phoenix?

The phoenix is a mythological bird reborn from fire and ashes. The New York Asian Women's Center chose the phoenix as its logo to symbolize the strength of the women who have overcome domestic violence.

☐ **Yes!** I want to help women and children live a life free of abuse.
Please add me to the **NYAWC** mailing list.



Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____ E-mail: _____

☐ I am enclosing a check in the amount of \$ _____

☐ I am including my credit card information to make a tax-deductible donation.

Name on card: _____

☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ American Express (check one)

Card Number: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Expiration Date: ____/____/____ Donation Amount: \$ _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Support NYAWC!

Volunteer!

Join our dedicated group of volunteers to enrich the lives of women and children.

For more info visit
www.nyawc.org

Donate!

Checks payable to NYAWC
can be mailed to:

NYAWC
39 Bowery, PMB 375
New York, NY 10002
Attn: Development
Manager

Or donate online at
www.nyawc.org

Join our mailing list:

Fill out the form on the left and
mail it to the above address.

*Your contributions will help
provide emergency shelter,
counseling, advocacy, and other
crucial services to abused women
and their children.*